

WALSH MURDERED AFTER N. J. ILLEGAL RUM AUCTION FAILS

Decides on Holdup When His \$12,000 Offer for 25 Barrels of Whiskey

BOOZE CAN'T BE FOUND

STORED IN FARMHOUSES

Sales Are Made to Highest

Bladders, with Belongings Assured When Good Prices Are Paid.

So great has become the demand for bootleg whiskey in New York that New Jersey runners, who are the chief source of supply, have formed a running auction and compete with one another for control of a virtual river of illicit booze that has been pouring into the State from the South and up over the Lincoln Highway from Trenton to this city. This has been revealed in the investigation being made into the slaying Thursday on that highway near New Brunswick of Frank Walsh, Passaic and Newark bootlegger, in which the New York police took a hand yesterday.

Southern moonshiners, the investigation shows, have been shipping their stuff north to Philadelphia, from where it is sent to small towns along the Delaware River and stored in farm houses. The wholesale dispenser of New Jersey carts the booze "over the line" and then lets the "small fry" take it. It is New Brunswick, Newark, Passaic, Hoboken and Jersey City are the headquarters, it is said, of a score of whiskey rings, each independent and an opponent of the other, while with one another for a supply of the best stuff.

Walsh was the head of a Passaic and Newark ring, the authorities say, and had been one of the bidders for the twenty-five barrels of whiskey which the state bought last year for the fair sale. Pedro and Leo Salamandra, the latter of whom also was slain Thursday

\$12,000 Offer Is Refused.

The highest offer was \$12,000, and this was turned down by Leo Salamandrino. The whiskey was stored in a farmhouse near Morrisville, Pa., which is almost directly across the Delaware River from Trenton. It had been there for several weeks, and Leo wanted to get rid of his hands. He decided to abandon the attempt to sell it to the local distillers, and instead to take it direct to Newark, where the market is bigger than in New Brunswick, Trenton or Perth Amboy.

Falling in their efforts to obtain the liquor for the price offered, Walsh, and at least one other band of bootleggers, it is believed, decided to buy the Salamandra brothers on their way to Newark. The fact that Walsh is said to have paid \$15,000 for the points was the shooting authorities had no evidence by the authorities that he was prepared to pay that amount for the liquor. Gan pay was resorted to, the authorities feel, only when Walsh said he could not do business at that figure.

Regarding what actually happened when the booze laden truck was held up on the Lincoln Highway, six miles outside of New Brunswick, the authorities

have not got an accurate account. The only two witnesses of the shooting—Sam Perkins, a negro, and Edward Rimmer, who were driving the truck—have told such conflicting stories that Joseph H. Stricker, prosecutor of Middlesex county, and Fred David and John Ferguson, county detectives, do not know what to believe.

Mystery in Second Pistol.

Mystery also surrounds a second pistol, of the magazine type, that was found lying beside Walsh's body in the automobile he used the night of the shooting. One or more shots had been

Prodro Salamandra has told Prosecutors that it was raining so hard when the shooting occurred he could not make out how many men were in the attacking party or who was being shot at. Leo Salamandra was shot in the right shoulder, the bullet passing through his lungs into the liver. Walsh was hit in the right eye. Both were shot at close range, as powder marks about the wounds show.

That Walsh and Salamandra, shot by each other is considered possible, but that they were shot by more than one man is believed. That Salamandra was shot by Walsh and that the latter the was slain by one of the Tronton man's followers, two of whom have not been identified.

After the shooting, it is believed, some

of the members of Walsh's gang lifted their dead chief into an automobile and drove off toward New Brunswick, in the outskirts of which they had a collision with another machine. The auto